

HCS HB 1630 -- SALARIES OF CIRCUIT CLERKS

SPONSOR: Pouche

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Government Efficiency and Downsizing by a vote of 10 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Legislative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1630.

Currently, salaries for Circuit Clerks are established in statute and vary by county classification. This bill specifies that salaries for circuit clerks will not vary based on the county classification.

This bill specifies that the annual salaries of Circuit Clerks will be equal to 62% of the annual salaries of Associate Circuit Judges. The bill also specifies that, if Associate Circuit Judges receive salary adjustments, then the Circuit Clerks will also receive corresponding salary adjustments.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will align Circuit Clerks' salaries with their extensive and ever increasing workload. It has been too long since their salaries have been raised.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Pouche; Eric Stallo; Ferguson Bryan Feemster; Tiffany Phillips; and Susan Sadler.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that there needs to be an in-depth discussion concerning the wages of all circuit clerk staff, who are the lowest paid Court Clerks in the nation.

Testifying in person against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.